

TRADES TO DEMAND INCREASES AT EXPIRATION OF AGREEMENT

**CONTRACTS EXPIRE APRIL 1
MAY FORCE ANOTHER
BIG STRIKE**

BLAME H. C. OF L.

**WORKMEN SAY THEY CANNOT
MAKE ENDS MEET BECAUSE
OF EXPENSIVE LIVING—HOPE
TO END DISPUTE WITHOUT
BUILDING TIIEUP.**

That all building trades would align for a material increase in wages at the expiration April 1 of their present agreement with contractors was admitted this morning by a prominent labor official to a representative of the Free Trader-Journal. What demands will be made have not been agreed upon, but it is understood the new contracts will embody a substantial increase per hour over what the men in the allied trades are now getting.

A strike looms as among the possibilities but representatives of both factions hope to avert a repetition of the experiences of two years ago when all building was tied up for several weeks, pending a settlement of differences existing between members of the Contractors' Association and of the union bodies.

Union chiefs are making ready to draw up their contracts for presentation to their employers and will have them duly prepared and signed by the time the present working agreements have expired. What the demands will be they are not prepared to state at this time and are keeping all their actions in confidence.

Cite H. C. of L.

The high cost of living is cited as one of the principal reasons for wage increase claims. The present prices of foodstuffs, fuel, clothing and other necessities, union heads aver, have made the advance allowed two years ago look like a paltry pittance in comparison. At the present rate of going they maintain it is hard for a tradesman to make both ends meet at the end of the month and something must be done to alleviate this condition.

Effects Many Trades.

Those who will be affected by the new agreements are members of the Carpenters & Joiners Union, Brick Masons and Helpers, Lathers, Plasterers, Plumbers, Painters and Decorators, Building Laborers. In all they comprise about one thousand men, nearly all of whom participated in the memorable strike of 1914, when all work was at a standstill, pending settlements of the disputes.

There is a possibility of another fight to establish a Teamster's organization in Ottawa upon a more firm basis than the present union is now.

SEEK RICH CLUBMAN AS SLAYER OF GIRL MODEL

Philadelphia, Jan. 3.—The man who killed Grace Roberts and left her pajama-clad form amid the wreckage of her luxurious apartment, is believed to be the person who fled panic-stricken thru Norristown on the night of the murder, leaving a trail which was being eagerly followed by detectives today.

The man was driven rapidly to the home of an attorney at Norristown. To the attorney he incoherently explained that he wanted to be defended on a murder charge, and before details could be secured from him he abruptly left.

Harry Bateman, chauffeur of the taxicab in which the disheveled young man fled so precipitately, was questioned by detectives today.

According to the lawyer the young man said he lived in Haverford, Pa. The chauffeur said he was well supplied with money of large denominations and spent it readily.

From Norristown the flight of the stranger led thru Reading, and he finally went to Haverford, according to the information supplied by detectives. At Haverford the trail ends.

TWELVE HOBOES GIVEN RIDE OUTSIDE OF CITY

Twelve hoboies were hurried out of town this morning after they had been arraigned before Justice Koenig. Chief of Police Burich ordered that the men be taken out in the police patrol. They were given three miles ride in an easterly direction and told to bid a fond adieu to Ottawa and ever-

'LOOP' PAVEMENT FILED IN COURT

**ROLL SHOWS CHURCHES AND SOCIETIES ARE ASSESSED LARGE
SUM—CITY TO PAY \$10,080 FOR
WASHINGTON PARK.**

The county clerk's office was the center of much interest this morning, following the announcement yesterday that the Assessment Roll showing the apportionment of the costs attached to repaving the "loop" district had been filed with that worthy. Judge Henry Mayo received the roll and fixed Wednesday, January 17, as the final day for filing any objections that might be held against the assessments.

Public buildings, city property, churches and clubs as owners of large parcels of downtown properties are assessed the largest amounts shown upon the rolls, according to the figures compiled by R. D. Mills, who had the work of spreading the tax in charge. The greatest individual payers will be the city and the two utility corporations using the downtown Sts. The C. O. & P. assessment is \$4,075.60, while the Northern Illinois Light & Traction Company is charged up with \$8,190, worth of benefits from the paving when it is completed. The city's share is \$10,080.

The roll shows the following assessments against these churches:

First M. E.	\$1,630.80
Congregational	1,296.00
Presbyterian	1,225.80
Episcopal	648.00
Baptist	624.24
Christian Science	513.00

Clubs Must Pay Large Sums.

The various lodges and social organizations will have to pay:

Masonic Temple	\$1,296.00
Ottawa Turnverein	1,004.00
Elks	562.50
Boat Club	553.50

Library Heavily Assessed.

An assessment of \$1,612 has been made against the trustees of Reddick's library for the property owned by them at the corner of Columbus and Lafayette streets. La Salle county is down for \$1,934.16 for the court house.

Wide Streets Blamed.

Comparisons with the amounts paid by property owners of the outlying districts will show that the downtown assessments are higher to the square foot than they are in recently paved portions. This is assigned by city authorities to the extreme width of all the streets to be effected by the new ordinance. All of the thoroughfares within the district to be improved are wider than they are in west, south, east or central Ottawa by several feet and for this reason the cost is jumped proportionately.

YOUNG CHURCHILL IS NABBED AT DENVER COL.

The apprehension of John Churchill and William Johnston, Marcellines youths who broke jail and fled the city after threatening the life of Harry T. Avery on November 9, 1916, at Denver, Colo., has ended a nation-wide search instituted by Sheriff Davis for the recalcitrant youths.

Notification of the detention of Churchill and Johnston was received in Ottawa this morning and deputy will be sent for them. They are being held at the Colorado Industrial School, pending the arrival of county authorities. They were arrested in Denver as "Juvenile Delinquents," after admitting they had travelled thru Texas.

Churchill and Johnston are also accused of having robbed the Frank T. Neff residence shortly after the affair at Avery's farm. Johnston was paroled to his aunt and young Churchill went to Moline to get him to take the trip west.

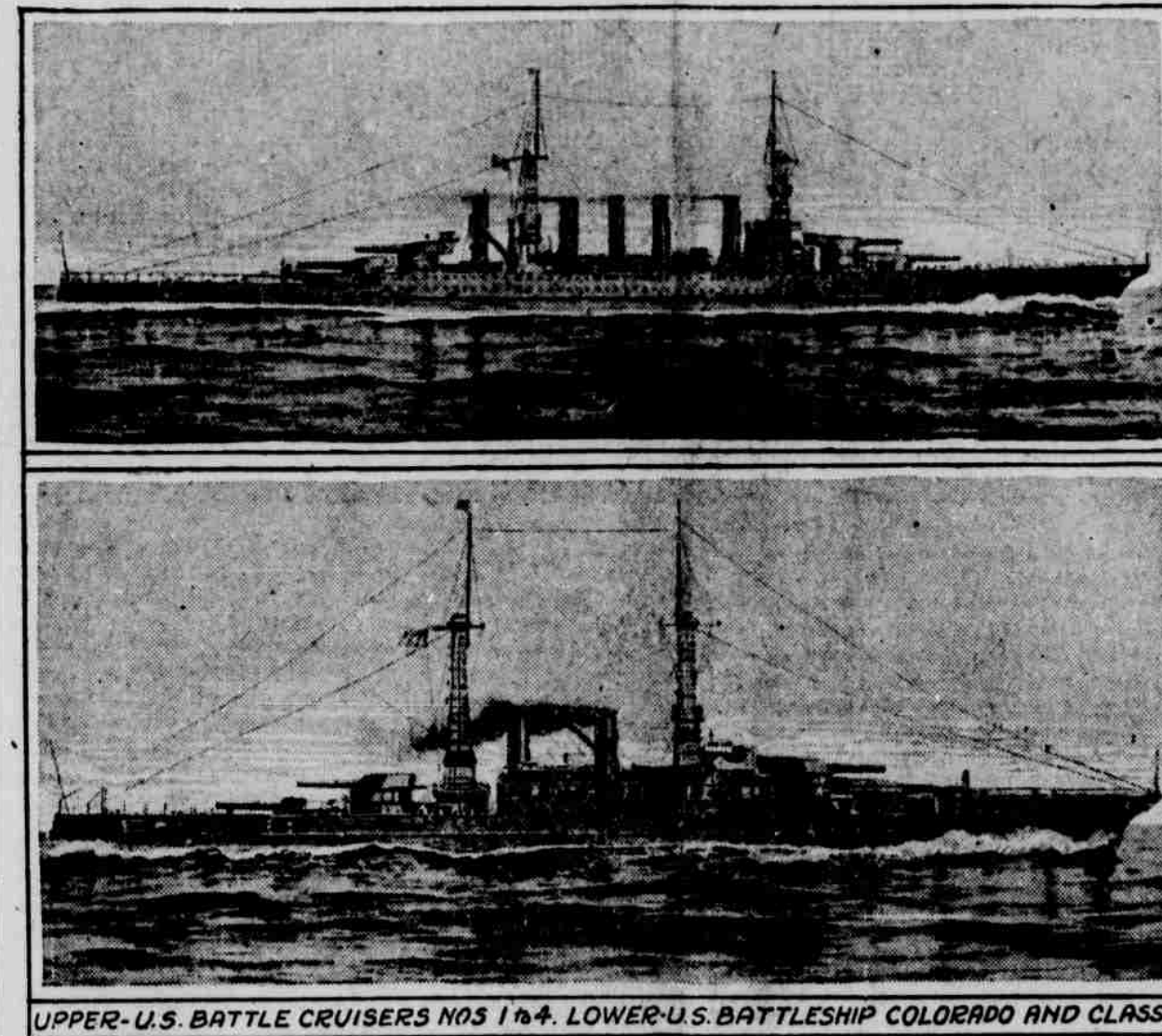
MARSEILLES COUPLE ATTAIN 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY.

Marcellines, Ill., Jan. 3.—Mr. and Mrs. Elton Brundage, old residents of Rutland township today are celebrating their fiftieth wedding anniversary at their home in this city. Mr. and Mrs. Brundage were married January 3, 1867 in the old Ottawa House, which stood upon the site of the present Boat Club.

Play's Depreciation.

I always allow for a depreciation of 50 per cent of a play's face value on production—25 per cent is lost through my own incompetence, and the other 25 per cent through the disabilities of the players.—Pineiro.

GIGANTIC PROJECTED AMERICAN WARSHIPS WILL OUTCLASS WORLD'S GREATEST VESSELS



UPPER—U.S. BATTLE CRUISERS NOS 1 & 4. LOWER—U.S. BATTLESHIP COLORADO AND CLASS

To permit the people of the United States to see what the projected battle cruisers of their navy will look like and to show the features of the new battleships of the Colorado class, the secretary of the navy has had prepared the accompanying drawings of the new vessels. By means of "wash" drawings such as these the effects of photographs are obtained, and it is possible to gain from them almost as definite ideas of the appearances of the vessels as would be obtained from actual photographs. The new battle cruisers authorized by congress will be the first vessels of their type in the American navy, although

battle cruisers have been constructed for several years for foreign navies, notably the British and German. King George's and the Kaiser's battle cruisers gave splendid accounts of themselves in the Jutland battle.

The American battle cruisers, names for which have not been selected, will be 874 feet long and will carry crews of 1,371 men. The displacement will be 34,000 and the speed thirty-five knots, five knots faster than that of any German or British battle cruiser. The armament will consist of ten fifty-caliber fourteen inch guns, twenty five-caliber five inch guns, four three-inch anti-aircraft guns and eight twenty-

one-inch torpedo tubes. These vessels will be driven by electric turbines.

With the picture of the battle cruiser (upper picture) is shown that of the new projected battleship of the Colorado class, which will comprise the Colorado, Maryland, West Virginia and Washington. They will be vessels of 32,000 tons, with twenty-one knots speed and carrying eight sixteen-inch guns each. There will be twenty-two smaller guns besides four anti-aircraft guns and torpedo tubes. Big as these ships will be they will be outclassed by the three still newer battleships already authorized, the ships of the Nos. 4, 5 and 6 class.

FREIGHT WRECK TIES UP TRAFFIC

**EAST AND WEST BOUND ROCK
ISLAND TRAINS DELAYED BY
ACCIDENT AT "Q" CROSSING
DURING NIGHT.**

Mail connections were served, express tied up, and freight shipments were delayed in Ottawa today as a result of a wreck on the C. R. I. & P. last evening at 12 o'clock. The wreck occurred at the junction of the "Q" and Rock Island tracks in North Ottawa. Ten cars were thrown across the right of way of the Rock Island when a brake beam broke. The beam caught in the "Q" tracks at the crossing.

Wrecking Crews Here.
Wrecking crews from Blue Island and Rock Island labored for five hours before the debris was cleared away. The train wrecked was a west bound freight made up largely of empty cars. Ten cars left the tracks, nine of which were empty and one loaded with barrels.

Mail Service Delayed.

This morning more than a dozen freight trains were side tracked from points east and west. Railway officials from Rock Island and Blue Island rushed here to handle the situation and at 10 o'clock this morning traffic was back to normal conditions. Mail trains did not arrive here until late as a result of the tieup. Express companies were greatly hampered in making their deliveries. It was practically impossible to get freight, consigned here until late this afternoon.

A member of the wrecking crew in an interview with a Free Trader-Journal reporter stated that if the freight train going west, was traveling at a very fast rate of speed that the tieup would have been of much greater magnitude. The train had stopped to get water near the depot and had not attained a very fast rate of speed when the accident occurred. Fortunately also the car in which the brake beam broke was at the rear of the string of empties.

Freight service over the "Q" was also crippled. The wreckage, however, was cleared away in time to let the north bound "Q" passenger by in time.

Members of the train crew, which was wrecked, were in the caboose at the time of the accident and escaped injury. Several ties that were torn up were replaced by section hands this morning.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.

Albert Plan, Ottawa
Miss Jessie Hilton, Ottawa
Floyd Richardson, Marcellines
Miss Cora Corrigan, Marcellines

EXTRA

**CERTAIN NO RESULTS ARE
FORTHCOMING.**

Washington, D. C., Jan. 3.—The pall of gloomy certainty that no immediate result can be expected from the peace moves of the central powers and the United States deepened today.

Administration officials and diplomatic representatives of neutrals and of the Teutonic alliance expect nothing more than the tiniest loopholes for the continuance of diplomatic exchange after the entente reply to the Wilson note is received.

EXPECT ENTENTE REPLY TOMORROW.

London, Jan. 3.—Diplomatic exchanges between London, Paris, Petrograd and Rome have made such satisfactory progress that it is probable that the allies' answer to President Wilson's note may be handed to Ambassador Wm. C. Sharp in Paris tomorrow. The reply is said to contain certain statements that were purposely omitted from the reply to the German peace note and those are understood to refer to terms.

GERMANS PREPARE TO STARVE ENGLAND'S SUBJECTS.

New York, Jan. 3.—Germany's attempt to isolate and starve England is under way. Mines and submarines are being used in this ambitious scheme to shorten the war by famine instead of gunpowder.

Passengers who arrived on the Holland American liner Nelue Amsterdam, said today that the entire coast of the British Isles has been mined. Submarines especially built and equipped were used in planting the mines, it was said.

POSSE SLAYS NEGRO WHO KILLED SWEETHEART.

Greenwood, Miss., Jan. 3.—Dave Pierce, a negro, who had killed his sweetheart with an axe, was shot and killed early today when a posse stormed the house in which he had barricaded himself and from which he exchanged shots with the officer all night. Two bystanders were wounded by his bullets.

OTTAWAIANS LEAVE FOR SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS.

Dr. Dana Palmer, Mr. and Mrs. Duffield, Walter Mitchell and William George left yesterday for San Antonio, Texas, with the intentions of purchasing land in Texas. The party was headed by Mr. George, a representative for the San Antonio Land company.

FLANAGANS BUY ANOTHER STORE

**BUILDING OCCUPIED BY CHOCOLATE SHOP SOLD BY W. C. VIT-
TUM FOR ABOUT \$18,000.**

An important real estate transfer took place today, when the store building owned by W. C. Vittum and occupied by the Chocolate Shop was sold to Mrs. Mary J. Flanagan, wife of M. J. Flanagan, owner of the store building next door to the north.

The three-story building now occupied by P. J. McManus, M. J. Flanagan and the Chocolate Shop were purchased by Mr. Vittum from the Sherwood estate about fifteen years ago. Since that time this property has practically doubled in value increasing from \$500 per front foot to \$1000 per front foot. The consideration paid for this building is not given out but it is reported to be about \$18,000.

This store was leased a short time ago to the Chocolate shop for a period of ten years.

GEORGIC IS REPORTED LOST; LONG OVERDUE

New York, Jan. 3.—Concern was felt in marine insurance and shipping circles today for the safety of the White Star steamship Georgic, one of the largest cargo carriers in the world, which was due to arrive at Liverpool Dec. 19, but has not been reported. The Georgic sailed from Philadelphia on Dec. 3 for Bristol and Liverpool with a cargo insured in New York City for \$1,000,000.

Local officials of the line believe the steamer may have been disabled and that Capt. Summers, fearing to betray his position to German submarines, did not send out wireless calls for aid. The Georgic usually carried from 12,000 to 1,400 tons of cargo on a voyage.

After waiting two weeks for news of the Georgic, marine insurance men sent rates higher today.

WANT OLD FORM OF CITY RULE FOR MARSEILLES.

Marcellines, Jan. 3.—Petitions to have Marcellines return to the old aldermanic form of government are being circulated in this city today. No particular set of people claim authorship of the petition, but it is believed the "wets" are making the move to forestall a vote under the commission form law upon the license ordinance.

Where She'd Suit.

The bride who tried to kill herself when her husband stayed away from home a few hours would make a dandy wife for a rich invalid.—Grand Rapids News.

EXPECT PERSHING WITHDRAWAL TO END MEXICAN DIFFICULTY

WANT GIRL TAKEN FROM MRS. THOMAS

**MARGUERITE STREET WOMAN DE-
TAINED WHILE PARAMOUR IS
HELD IN JAIL—START DEPEND-
ANCY PROCEEDINGS.**

Attabella Thomas, little daughter of Nettie Thomas, Marquette street woman who was arrested last Saturday and locked up in the county jail on a charge of living in a state of open adultery with Harry Miller, suspected forger, as her paramour, today was made defendant in dependency proceedings instituted against her in the county court by Miss Launila Aussem.

The petition as signed by Truant Officer Aussem alleges that the mother is an unfit person to have the custody of the little girl, as a result of her conduct with Miller.

Judge Mayo after receiving the petition, set January 6, at 10 o'clock a. m. as the day and hour of the hearing. Mrs. Thomas and her other infant were removed to the county home where they are now being detained. Miller is said to be the father of the baby.

Miller was arrested Saturday, as told exclusively in the Free Trader-Journal, and yesterday afternoon was bound over to the grand jury on a complaint charging him with adultery. In the meantime officials are looking into his record as a check casher.

He admitted knowing Stephen McKinley, wholesale forger, now in jail for passing half a dozen worthless checks, and it is believed by the police and sheriff's office that he helped McKinley get rid of some of the bad paper. The proprietor of the Colonial chocolate shop where a check for \$7 was cashed believed Miller was the man who defrauded him. The checks bore the name of William Bozeman. Miller was employed as a dishwasher in a downtown eating house. He denied any knowledge of the check irregularities.

Mrs. Thomas, the mother of the little girl, has been divorced from her husband, Asa Thomas, of Marcellines. Several months ago they staged a dramatic court trial in which possession of the children was the objects for whom estranged parents were striving, the ex-husband complaining against his erstwhile spouse upon moral and financial grounds. He said she was incompetent to have the care of children.

PALMER PENS VERSE AS NEW YEARS WISH TO BOYS

Commissioner Walter Palmer, the Longfellow of the turf, is making long and effective strides as a poet writer of no mean skill. Several of his works have appeared in public prints of national circulation and when he pens an ordinary little skit it is only natural that the home-folk be given a chance to see it.

The appended display of poetic talent was expended upon the police force and was written hurriedly upon the "slate" at headquarters as a New Year's greeting to the "boys." A noisy news writer of the Free Trader-Journal uncovered it and herein gives it to you:

A bright new year I wish you
And a winning brush at the last.
And a race that is fair and a Judge
That is square,
And a winning brush at the last.
And its not alone in the year to come
That I wish these things to you
But through every year 'til life's race
Is run
May your load be light and your
skies be blue.
W. B. P.

PERU YOUTH KILLED IN ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING

John Wilmeroth, aged eighteen years, prominent Peru lad, met instant death last evening at 8 o'clock, when a 22-caliber revolver accidental discharged, wounding Wilmeroth in the heart. Death was instantaneous. Wilmeroth met his death while playing with the weapon in a shanty in Peru in company with four other friends.

The youth was a member of a juvenile club that held their gathering in a shanty. He was explaining the use of the revolver when the tragedy occurred. A physician was called but the lad was dead.

The coroner's jury this morning returned a verdict of accidental shooting. The deceased was well known in Peru.

AMBASSADOR FLETCHER MAY SMOOTH OUT RUFFLED FEELINGS.

CONFERENCE IS ENDED

**JOINT COMMISSION WILL CON-
CLUDE EFFORTS TO SOLVE
PUNITIVE EXPEDITION PRO-
BLEM—VILLA CONTINUES SUC-
CESSES.**

VILLA HAS MORE SUCCESSES NEAR LOS MEDINOS.

El Paso, Texas, Jan. 3.—Attacked by Villistas at Los Medinos, 500 Carranza soldiers sent south from Juarez deserted to the command of Colonels Ochoa and Tames, according to word received here today.

This defection bringing the number of Villistas between Juarez and Chihuahua City up to about 10,000 men. They are in position to cut off General Murguia's escape north from the capital.

Villistas sympathizers here predict another attack on Chihuahua today by the forces of General Salazar.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 3.—Termination of the conference of the American Mexican joint commission, withdrawal of the Pershing column, and then resumption of some form of conferences to settle the disputed points in the relation between the United States and the defacto government Mexico is expected to the program of the administration.

It is confidently expected that the American section of joint commission today will bring to an end the deliberations of the body which General Carranza has rejected the Atlantic City protocol because it provided specifically an arrangement concerning the withdrawal of the Pershing column. As he has never officially recognized its presence on Mexican soil, he felt that it would jeopardize his control of the defacto government of Mexico to sign the protocol.

It is practically certain that the plans of the Administration to recall General Pershing from Mexico were not forced by the insistence of the defacto government, but by the fact, made clear by Administration officials and by Americans in Mexico that the continued presence of the American troops would result eventually in the overthrow of Carranza. This would lead to control of small portions of Mexico by various elements in Mexico, with none of whom the administration could deal.

Once the troops are out, it was pointed out today, arrangements for adequate border protection and for the protection of Americans and their property in Mexico would be discussed. It is generally understood here that another attempt to adjust these points will be made thru the medium of a special commission of Americans and Carranistas.

Dispatching Ambassador Fletcher to his post, expected now at any time, coupled with the withdrawal of the American column, will go far towards smoothing the ruffled feelings of the defacto officials of Mexico. Officials here are frank in stating that the withdrawal of Ambassador Designate Arrendondo altho under the guise of a temporary absence, removes another obstacle toward establishing a better basis for negotiations with the Carranza government.

It is not to be expected that announcement of the Pershing withdrawal will be made immediately. Unofficial and informal arrangement with the Mexican defacto government to occupy the territory evacuated by General Pershing must be completed before this step is taken, army officers said today.

BREAK OPEN LA SALLE SAFE AND SECURE \$300 IN MONEY

La Salle, Ill., Jan. 3.—Robbers last evening broke into the office of Baker Bros. wholesale plant here last night and made away with \$300 in cash, which had been placed in the vault by employees before closing the office at the end of the day's work. No attempt was made to blow the safe; the burglars managing to force the door open. No clues were found that lead to the identity of the yeggs. From Baker Bros. they went into the Schlitz Brewing Company's office, but failed to get into the safe.